

GOMPERS' REACTION STIRS POLITICIANS

Union Vote May Not Follow Him to Bryan.

PRINTERS FAVOR TAFT'S ELECTION

Hearst's Cutting Reply to Federation Chief Scores Record of Democratic Party.

In political and labor circles there is much interest evinced in the return to Washington of President Samuel Gompers, of the American Federation of Labor, who is confronted with the caustic refusal of William Randolph Hearst to adopt Gompers' suggestion and support Bryan, and also an alleged threatened defection from the Gompers-Mitchell campaign plans by labor leaders in some parts of the country.

Mr. Gompers may reach the city this afternoon or tonight, although his office has not been advised. Secretary Morrison has wired that he will arrive tomorrow morning.

The matter resolves itself into a question whether the bulk of union voters will acquiesce in the arrangements made by Mr. Gompers, Mr. Mitchell, Secretary Morrison, and other leaders at Denver to support unqualifiedly the Democrat ticket. If the labor vote can be swung by the platform makers it means some two million votes for the Democrats.

Labor Leaders Divided.
In certain sections, however, local labor leaders of more or less importance have declared that by no means would labor as a unit support Bryan. Others have been just as insistent that the ticket was acceptable to union labor and that the defection would be insignificant.

Even in Washington Mr. Gompers' plans have been opposed by a leader of considerable influence in the person of James L. Feeney, president of the Bookbinders' Union. Mr. Feeney's allegiance to Mr. Taft, however, is explained as rather a personal one, the union printers and Mr. Feeney particularly feeling indebted to the former Secretary of War for his influence in landing the position of Public Printer for John S. Leach, a union man and a friend of labor. Others acquainted with the feeling of labor in general in this city, say that as a whole the unions will support Mr. Bryan, in accordance with the prearranged plan of the leaders who obtained at Denver an injunction plank, which they were unable to obtain for labor at Chicago.

Bryan Assured of Support.

Mr. Gompers and his associates, it is believed, have no fear that labor will not vote the Democratic ticket in November and assurances have been given Mr. Bryan to this effect. Nevertheless, Mr. Gompers' reaction to the cutting of voters is being awaited with extreme interest.

Considerable interest also centers in the probable action of Mr. Gompers' agent the reply of Mr. Hearst, who was advised by the Federation's president that in view of the Democratic stand for labor it would be "an act of great patriotism for the Independence party to endorse the Democratic platform."

Mr. Hearst has cabled with a request that his reply be transmitted to Mr. Gompers, that he considers it a greater act of patriotism to endeavor to establish a party that will be consistently devoted to the interest of the producing masses.

Hearst's Cutting Reply.
Says Mr. Hearst, in his positive and cutting refusal to look at the matter from the Gompers' viewpoint:

"I do not think the path of patriotism lies in supporting a discredited and decadent old party, which has neither conscientious conviction nor honest intention of endorsing chameleon candidates who change their color to suit the popular opinion with every varying hue of opportunism.

"I do not think the best benefit of laboring men lies in supporting a party because of a sop of false promise, when the performance of that party while in power did more to injure labor than all the injunctions ever issued before or since.

"I have lost faith in the empty professions of an unregenerate democracy. I have lost confidence in the ability, in the sincerity and even in the integrity of its leaders.

"I do not consider it patriotism to pretend to support that which, as a citizen I detect and I earnestly hope that the Independence party will give me an opportunity to vote for candidates that are honest and for declaration of principles that is both sound and sincere."

"WILLIAM RANDOLPH HEARST."

HONEST AMERICANS.

A German manufacturer on his first visit to the United States was the guest of a kinsman in New York. He expressed surprise when, a few days after his arrival, he saw a number of men help themselves to papers at an unattended newsstand, where some men laid down the exact price of their purchase, others walked away without paying. He was told that the last named group were customers who paid once a week, but that no one ever failed to pay. To demonstrate their contention that most people are honest in this country, the Americanized German took his visitor that day to a restaurant where both were unknown, and when they had finished their luncheon the host went to the cashier's desk with his check and said he had no money with him, but would pay the next day. The cashier gave the couple a hasty glance and said: "All right; I'll take a chance." At the door a right-about-face movement was executed, the check was paid, a good cigar was handed to the cashier, to whom the plot was revealed, and the German exclaimed, "Grossartig!"—Exchange.

WORLD'S OLDEST TREE.

The London Globe recently published an article on "The World's Oldest Tree," which was reprinted in several American papers. The writer said that the grand-daddy of all present trees was to be found on the Isle of Cos on the coast of Asia Minor, was estimated to be considerably more than 2,500 years old and had a circumference of 31½ feet. In a letter to the Tribune, Ivy L. Lee, head of the publicity department of the Pennsylvania railroad, disputes the Globe's statements. "It is evident," says Mr. Lee, "that the writer of this note was not familiar with the big trees of California, a large number of which are probably more than 2,500 years old, and it is certain that the oldest and largest of them—namely, the 'Grizzly Giant,' in the Mariposa grove near Yosemite Park—is upward of 3,000 years old. Calculations to this effect have been made by eminent scientists, and there is probably no doubt of their correctness. Not only is this great tree and many of its companions of such great age, but it shows no tendency toward decay. The trunk of this tree is more than 100 feet in circumference."

AND THE REST NOWHERE



—From the Philadelphia Inquirer.

FASSETT TELEGRAM DROPPED BY JURY

Operator Not Held for Changing Anti-Gambling Bill Dispatch.

The grand jury has dropped its investigation of the so-called Fassett-Cassidy tampered telegram, which was blamed for the first defeat of Governor Hughes' anti-race track bill in the New York Legislature. It has been decided that although the telegram was altered by an employee of the telegraph company, there is no law which makes such action a criminal offense.

The District Attorney's office has had the matter under consideration for months, but nowhere in all the books could anything be found that would make Julian Timberlake, the young House of Representatives operator who, in a thoughtless moment, inserted the ominous word "not," criminally responsible for the act.

And so the incident that once created great excitement and for a while deep mystery, is closed. The insertion of that little word "not," but the work of a single moment, for weeks was the subject of many columns of news.

Detectives were called in and there were dark rumors. A deep plot, it was said, had been hatched by the New York governor—a blow in the dark, and the gumshoe men glided around, uttering their theories and capping their foreheads sardoniously. Several other employees of the Western Union were implicated by the rumors, and visions of a vast conspiracy stalked about.

Then young Timberlake, who is only seventeen years of age, made a statement that cleared the matter up. He said that he had been told by a man named Lambert, in which he admitted having inserted the word because he overheard some of his superiors talking over the race track bill, and remembered that one of them had expressed a wish that it would be defeated.

Representative Sloat Fassett, a member of Congress from New York, filed a telegram in the House of Representatives telegraph office asking Senator Cassidy to vote for the bill. Cassidy's vote was the deciding one, and when "not" was inserted in the telegram he voted against it.

Although the District Attorney's Office, when it started its investigation, was certain that forgery had been committed, the grand jury evidently did not concur.

WHY MEN LIKE WIDOWS.

A widow knows how to sympathize—how to make his stay so pleasant that he does not think of leaving her. She knows how to touch the sympathetic chord in each one's particular pride vibration.

Every man feels more or less pleased with himself if he gets off at the table what he considers a wise or witty remark. If his neighbors respond he feels proud and is doubly pleased, but if they only smile the tone of self-satisfaction dies away plannissmo. Now, a widow understands the witicism. His most plattitudinous remarks are sure to start a symphony of smiles on her countenance.

As for him—she may say anything she pleases—if she is a fascinating widow, he never knows what she says, but only hears the music of her voice, as if her words were the text and her voice the melody of an Italian opera.—Chicago Journal.

A ROUNDUP.

"Life is only a gloomy sort of a prison." "No wonder you think so." "Why should I think so more than you?" "I have not spent my life beating the bars as you have."—Exchange.

Want Food easy to digest?

Grape-Nuts

made from wheat and barley, is pre-digested in the making.

"There's a Reason"

SLAYER OF FIVE; NEGRO CONFESSES

Crimes Began in 1896, Says Man Condemned to Be Hanged.

CLARKSBURG, W. Va., July 17.—Sentenced to be hanged today for the murder of Beulah Martin, a negro, at Gypsy, W. Va., in March, 1906, Frank Johnson, a giant negro, has confessed to ministers that he has murdered five persons since 1896, and gives the names of three of his victims. His victims were:

Edith Hannah, at 31 South Peoria street, Chicago, in 1904; Marion Blue, of Shippensburg, Pa., 1906; Beulah Martin, negro, of Gypsy, W. Va., in March, 1906; white man, name unknown, at Bossburg, Ala., in 1896; woman, name unknown, at 132 South Seventh street, Steubenville, Ohio, in 1907.

Johnson's confession has been taken down in writing. The negro was born in Georgia and says that his real name is Edward Martin. He refused to discuss the details of the murders. Johnson shot and killed Beulah Martin because she refused to elope with him. He escaped to the hills, followed by a posse of 400 people. The negro barricaded himself in a barn, where he held out against the posse a day and a night.

Johnson seriously wounded three of the attacking party, but when Sheriff Flanagan threatened to dynamite the barn, the negro surrendered.

HE HELPED.

"Whisky is being downed in Kentucky, all right," said a man. "That's right, I downed my share of it while I lived there."

Today's Vital Records.

Births.

James J. and Bessie B. Hemmerly, boy. Frank A. and Eva H. Wesley, boy. George P. and Mabel W. Vandergrist, girl. Charles L. and Martha Ruppert, boy. Remel and Edna Phelps, boy. Raymond E. and Mary B. Oden, boy. Benjamin and Anna Kuperstein, boy. Thomas and Minnie Hanley, girl. John P. and Rosalie Gibbons, girl. Albert R. and Mamie E. Edmonston, boy. James E. and Isa T. Cavanaugh, girl. Dennis and Mary Copperthite, girl. Minrod and Mary E. Anderson, girl.

Marriage Licenses.

Albert J. Mahler, Washington, and Florence M. Lux, Chicago, Ill. John Barry and Anna Wright, Baltimore, Md. Rowlett Knight and Jona S. Miller, Chevy Chase. Alexander Hollowell, Great Bridge, Va., and Sue C. Boyd, Roseland, Va. Albert N. Smith and Elizabeth C. Lord, Merrick, Long Island, N. Y.

Deaths.

Emma V. G. Connors, 25 years, 1000 South Capitol street. Frances Fugitt, 50 years, 324 I street southwest. Harriet E. Graham, 64 years, 202 North Capitol street. Elizabeth Emmer, 72 years, 600 R street northwest. Lisette Stein, 73 years, National Lutheran church. Norman F. Wrenn, 16 years, 1867 Mintwood place. Adolph Operitz, 4 months, 322 Fourteenth street southwest.

NEW ARABIAN NIGHTS.

A struggling author was once dreaming of the time when magazine publishers would come to him and fight for the exclusive rights to his writings at \$1 per word.

"But I shall spurn them," murmured he, at the same time launching a vigorous kick which wrecked his type-writer.

It cost him \$2.35 to get the machine repaired.—Exchange.

BODY OF L'ENFANT TO BE REINTERRED

Mr. Macfarland Recommends Removal From Digges Farm, Md.

Within a short time it is probable that the body of Major Pierre Charles L'Enfant will be removed from its present resting place in the Digges farm in Maryland, and will be reinterred in the campus of the Catholic University.

A recommendation to the Commissioners to this effect will be made by Commissioner Macfarland, together with the suggestion that a modest memorial, a suitable grave-stone, be erected above the grave. Funds for this work were provided for by Congress in a \$1,000 appropriation.

The present owners of the Digges property are willing to have the remains removed provided they are placed in the campus of the Catholic University, in view of the fact that Major L'Enfant was a Catholic and that they desired his remains to rest in consecrated ground.

Mr. Macfarland has conferred with Bishop O'Connell, director of the Catholic University, and has been assured that the university will gladly receive the remains.

STILLINGS CONTRACT DECLARED INVALID

(Continued from First Page.)

In good faith and without knowledge that the law was not being observed by the purchasing officer.

Warns Against High Price.

"The only theory on which payment can now be made is that of a fair value for the goods furnished regardless of the proposal and acceptance. If you are of the opinion that the vouchers supplied are excessive in price I would advise you to pay what you consider the articles to be worth and what they might have been procured for from other dealers.

"Under existing circumstances, if I were to hold that payment of the voucher could not now be made, the creditor would be forced into the Court to claim the value of the goods sold and used by the Government.

"Without establishing a precedent for future cases where the law has been violated in the matter of purchases, it appears that the Government will be injured by the payment of a reasonable value to be determined by yourself."

Opinion on Discounts.

In reference to a protest from the contracting firm against the 5 per cent discount, Comptroller Tracewell says the Public Printer cannot withhold the amount from the voucher because the discount period has long since expired, and then adds:

"In this connection, and as a matter of personal opinion, I may say that I do not attach any very great importance to the insertion of discount clauses in contracts or proposals and acceptances, based upon prompt payment, or otherwise. The statute requires competition in order that the Government may have the benefit thereof by awarding contracts to the lowest responsible bidder. It is expected that disbursing officers will make prompt payments of the bills of contract and other creditors of the Government upon the submission of regular vouchers, regardless of whether there is any provision for discount. It is safe to say that when a company, firm, or corporation, consents to a certain discount it ranges its schedule of prices accordingly, so that the usual profit may still be made.

The vouchers call for \$426.31 and \$265.28, respectively. These discounts are most important when considered in connection with the report of the many purchases made from the Audit Supply System without competition.

SMOOTH WORK.

"I see you have that wonderful cook who was in the Jinx family for so long."

"Yes, isn't she a dream?"

"Indeed she is; but how did you come to get her? I have heard her say that no amount of money could move her to leave Mrs. Jinx."

"From me to tell?"

"Certainly."

"Well, my husband has a put at the city hall and he had her policeman moved over onto this beat."

GEORGIA CONVICTS SUBJECT OF PROBE

Legislature to Investigate Charges of Leasing Prisoners Against Jail Board.

ATLANTA, Ga., July 17.—Georgia's convict system is to be subjected to legislative investigation. This morning the lower house of the Legislature unanimously concurred in the Senate's resolution providing for this investigation.

The action of the Legislature is the direct outcome of a campaign of criticism waged against the administration of the present prison commission, and the methods employed in disposing of the State's prisoners to lessees by a local paper.

Georgia's convict lease system has long been a subject of condemnation by various writers throughout the country, many of whom have come on record as saying the system is worse than any form of slavery.

CHURCH NOTICES.

TRINITY A. M. E. Zion Church, 74 Morrison st. N. W. Rev. W. Smith, D. D., pastor; service morning, 11 a. m.; evening, 8:30 p. m.; Sunday school, 9 a. m. Subject morning, "The Field of Christ's Prodigal Son." Subject evening, "The Religious Duty of Honest Debt Paying." Singers welcome. Seats free. Come to the rally.

Died.

FRANCIS J. FUGITT, widow of the late Albert S. Fugitt, in her sixty-first year. Funeral services at chapel, Congressional Cemetery, Saturday, July 18, 1908, at 2 o'clock. Friends and relatives invited to attend.

GORHAM—On Thursday, July 16, 1908, at 5:30 o'clock p. m. at West End, Va., FRANCES JANE GORHAM, aged 41 years and 1 month.

UNDERTAKERS.

J. WILLIAM LEE,
UNDERTAKER AND LIVERY,
32 Pa. Ave. N. W. Washington, D. C.
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Want heavy cuts on APARTMENT HOUSE AND MERCANTILE RISKS.

We represent leading American and English companies, with assets aggregating over \$100,000,000. Have been over 35 years in the insurance business here. Call at our office or write.

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JUDD & DETWEILER, Inc.,
THE BIG PRINT SHOP, 43-2 11th st. jy17-17

NOTICE TO STOCKHOLDERS.

The sixty-fourth regular quarterly dividend of one and three-quarters per cent has been declared on the capital stock of the Washington Loan and Trust Company, payable August 1, 1908, when checks for dividend will be mailed to all stockholders of registered address. The books of the company will be closed from July 25 to August 1, 1908, both dates inclusive, for the transfer of stock. Stockholders who have changed their addresses since last dividend are requested to notify the company.
HARRY G. MEMM,
Treasurer.
jy17-17

A MEETING OF THE LICENSED DOG

Owners of District of Columbia will be held at 201 Eleventh st. n. w., at 8 P. M. THIS EVENING (Friday).

PARTIES WANTING PRIVILEGES.

Etc., at Marlboro Fair Grounds, or information pertaining to same, apply in person or by letter to R. F. CROXSON, 1507 H st. ne. jy17-17

DAIRY LUNCH—Quick service, whole-

some food; pool & billiards; 3d floor from baseball park, everything strictly up-to-date. **HARRY GENTNER,** 7th & 14th ave. jy17-17

ROOF TROUBLE

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my22-1, n. w. -17

FOR RENT—Beautifully furnished desk

room in coolest office in city; every convenience. 207 Bond Bldg. jy15-17

TO THE STOCKHOLDERS AND

Creditors of the First Co-operative Building Association of Georgetown, D. C.—All stockholders and creditors of the above-named Association are notified and requested to call at the office of the undersigned at their earliest convenience, and bring with them their passbooks and all papers and correspondence pertaining to their transactions with the Association. Respectfully,
WILLIAM EARL AMBROSE,
Receiver.

435 La. ave. n. w. Washington, D. C.
JAMES S. EASBY SMITH,
JOHN LEWIS SMITH,
jy15-17 Counsel for Receiver.

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Before going on your vacation have your mandolins, guitars, or violins repaired.

1420 New York Ave. my1-90

Case Choice Lager Beer, 80c; 10c

rebate on empty bottles. Gal. choice Claret, Port, or Sherry, 75c. T. R. BEAVERS, 42 1/2 st. sw. Phone M. 512. my3-90

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SUITS, DRESSES, SKIRTS AND WAISTS

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Your Credit Here Is as Good as Your Cash Elsewhere

MEN'S HDKFS.
White, 1-inch Hem, 10c quality
4c

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MEN'S SOX
Imported Gauze Lisle, 25c quality. Slightly imperfect.
11c pair

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Everything goes, and no wonder, Look at the prices

\$18-20-25 Suits now \$9.90

\$2, \$2.50 Straw Hats 95c

For the accommodation of those who cannot shop early on Saturday our store will be open until 10 o'clock.

Saturday's Hour Sale
from 10 to 11 Guyot Suspenders " 4 to 5 1 pair to a customer " 8 to 9 10c pair

Did you ever hear of such a remorseless slaughter of high-class Clothes?

\$12-15-17 Suits now \$7.90

\$5.00, \$6.00 Boys' Suits \$1.95

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Big Bargains in Dependable Furniture Offered on the Easiest of Easy Credit Terms

This \$12.50 Go-Cart \$5.75

Handsome Reed Body Go-Cart like cut; latest gear and best rubber tires. Regular \$12.50 value. Sale price.....

\$3 Boston Leather Rubber-tired Go-Cart for..... **95c**

Remnant Lot of Cuspidors at 19c

Full-nickel Cuspidor like illustration; 3½ inches in diameter; across the top especially suitable for home or office. Regularly \$